

Message Text

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12
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 230928Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1151

S E C R E T BANGKOK 20838

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MMOL, PFOR, TH, US

SUBJECT: U.S. RESIDUAL ACTIVITIES IN THAILAND: STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 180877

1. EMBASSY APPRECIATES DEPARTMENT'S REVIEW OF STATUS OF OVERALL NEGOTIATIONS (REFTEL). FOLLOWING ARE OUR COMMENTS ON POINTS RAISED THEREIN.

2. RE ICS, U.S. TECHNICAL PERSONNEL CONSIDER THAI SYSTEM FULLY CAPABLE OF MEETING U.S. NEEDS FOR CHIANG MAI/BANGKOK COMMUNICATIONS. MISSION TRUSTS WE CAN NOW CONSIDER THIS ISSUE RESOLVED.

3. ERROR IN TRANSMISSION APPARENTLY RESULTED IN DELETION OF WORD "NOT" FROM SENTENCE "MATERIAL OF ANY KIND REQUIRED TO BE BROUGHT TO THAILAND BY THE UNITED STATES TO ASSIST THE (NAME OF THAI AGENCY) IN OPERATION, REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THE STATION WILL NOT BE SUBJECT TO IMPORT DUTIES OR OTHER TAXES, DUTIES OR IMPOSTS." DEPARTMENT WAS CORRECT IN ASSUMPTION THAT SENTENCE SHOULD READ IN THE NEGATIVE.

4. RE COMINT. SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE AND NO FURTHER ACTION HERE IS REQUIRED. INDEED, WE STRONGLY URGE THAT NO RPT NO MENTION OF THIS MATTER BE MADE IN ANY COVERING AGREEMENT AND WE PLAN TO PROCEED

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AS THOUGH THIS WAS A CLOSED CHAPTER.

5. AS FOR FINAL SIGNING OF MOAS, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT CHIEF JUSMAGTHAI SHOULD SIGN AIT AND ICS, AND DATT IN HIS CAPACITY AS AIR ATTACHE SHOULD SIGN CHIANG MAI AGREEMENT. NOTHING FURTHER NEEDS TO BE DONE IN WRITING ON TAKHLI OR COMINT. DCM OR ACTING DCM COULD SIGN FOR USG BUT WE WOULD PREFER FOREGOING PLAN. EMBASSY EVEN QUESTIONS WHETHER THERE IS A NEED FOR AN OVERALL AGREEMENT, EXCHANGE OF NOTES, OR WHATEVER. FOREIGN MINISTRY, HOWEVER, IS APPARENTLY CHAFING AT BEING LEFT OUT OF THESE RESIDUAL NEGOTIATIONS ON THAI SIDE, AND MAY OBJECT TO STRICT MILITARY-TO-MILITARY AGREEMENTS OR EVEN EXCHANGE OF NOTES OR LETTERS BETWEEN EMBASSY AND MFA ON MATTERS ON WHICH MFA HAS NOT BEEN CONSULTED. THIS THAI LACK OF COORDINATION COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS AND THE BEST WE CAN DO IS ATTEMPT TO SORT THINGS OUT LOCALLY. IT APPEARS THAT WE AND DEPARTMENT SHARE THE SAME PERCEPTION ON HANDLING SIGNING, AND WE WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED OF OUR PROGRESS.

WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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